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 NEWS



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VOLUME 32 | ISSUE 4 | 2018

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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS Volume 32 ❁ Issue 4 ❁ May 2018

A publication of the Old Irving Park Association by, for and about people living in the neighborhood. Old Irving Park neighborhood boundaries includes: Addison on the south, Montrose on the north, Pulaski on the east and the Milwaukee District North Line on the west (from Addison to Irving Park) continuing with the freight/Amtrak railroad tracks from Irving Park to Montrose (i.e., east of Knox Ave.). A map can be found on our website.

The Old Irving Park Association (OIPA) is a non-profit, all volunteer community group active since 1983. The *Old Irving Park News* is published ten times a year.

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Cover photo by



Third in A Series: Meet Our Board

Colleen Kenny, Board Member

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After college at Marquette University, I moved to Chicago. Two decades later, I consider myself a true Chicagoan-Bears fan and all.

How long have you lived in Old Irving Park and who is in your household?

In 2014, my husband Rich and I were driving around looking for a house to renovate when we saw an old house that called to us. With a lot of patience and a lot of effort, from our fabulous contractor (Old Irving Park's EPIC Builders) we made the 4300 block of Kildare our home.

Work outside of OIPA?

I work in business leadership at the creative solutions/advertising agency, Leo Burnett.

Favorite local business: In our household, you would not know that dry cleaning was in decline—I have a lot of it! I am so thankful for S. C. Cleaners! I also love Lee Nails, the women that run the shop are amazing!

Breakfast drink of choice: Chocolate Protein Shake

Interests/Hobbies: Nutrition. Fitness. Entertaining. Shopping.

Favorite things to do outside: Paddle Boarding. Reading on the porch (always made better by a fire). I like taking a walk in the snow.



*Colleen and her husband Rich.
Photo by forty photography*

Profession you would have if given a “do over”: When I was a child, I used to make believe that my name was, “Sylvia Loreal Estee Lauder” and I ran a cosmetic empire. Not sure why I never pursued that career path.

Last book you read: The Swans of Fifth Avenue by Melanie Benjamin.

Craziest thing you've ever done: I have done stupid things, but crazy? I climbed Machu Picchu with my husband; the crazy part was the camping, not the climbing! Does that count?

History with OIPA: I started going to the meetings when we moved here in 2014 and quickly wanted to get more involved. I joined the board in 2017. I also head up the newsletter advertising sales

Favorite part of serving on the OIPA board: Being part of something that makes a difference.

Hope for the future of OIPA: I would love to welcome new members and see together, how great we can make this already magnificent neighborhood.

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Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting

April 2018 — Bart Goldberg, Secretary

Present: Lynn Ankney, Adrienne Chan, Meredith O'Sullivan, Colleen Kenny, Anna Sobor, and Bart Goldberg.

The Board meeting commenced at 7:11 p.m. Our thanks to Meredith for hosting. We needed a place to meet and she did not let the fact that her beautiful house renovation was only 90% done dissuade her.

Treasurer's Reports: The Treasurer's Report for March had not yet been prepared since our famed treasurer (Howard Silver) was unavailable due to his other accounting duties at tax time. Work before pleasure. It was just as well that he missed it as there could have been a scene when he found out that some(or all) of Meredith's otherwise exemplary children had eaten the brownies that she had made for the meeting before we arrived. They are not being mentioned by name as the investigation is still pending, and it would not be proper for this to be appended to their permanent record until all of the facts are in. Besides, Howard and I certainly would not have saved any for them.

Membership and OIPA All-Star Party: Colleen presented us with options and we selected the tote bags that are being ordered to reward the people who joined OIPA this year at the Good Neighbor level of membership. Then our attention turned to the incredible preparations that Colleen is making for the cocktail party she will be hosting for all that joined at the Neighborhood All-Star level. She is very good at this! We agreed upon a date of September 9, 2018 for the party. For anyone who wants there is still time to

upgrade your membership to get a tote bag and come to this party.

Advertising and Banners: Colleen reported that some particular advertisers come and go due to seasonal preferences, but that total advertising has remained steady. Adrienne said that we have already sold 22 of the new banners (which is great) and that they should be up in the next couple of months. There are still banner spots available, so feel free to contact us if interested. We will be marketing them further in the fall.

Business Development: Several recent developments were discussed including a couple of fine new food and beverage options for us. One is a coffee, tea and sandwich shop located at the old Whistle Stop and another is KP's Sweets and Spirits which will be opening at 4304 N. Pulaski. We will report further on this later and hopefully have both at a future general meeting. Welcome!

Lydia Home: President Ankney reported on a recent meeting that she had with the Jonn Blazey, who is now the director at Lydia. We hope to invite him to a general meeting in the near future as she said that they are doing very impressive things. Since we had already given our charitable gifts for the year and had not included them, we passed a motion to correct for this and to immediately make a \$500 gift to Lydia.

Neighborhood Beautification: The commendable efforts being made by Dan William in an effort to address trash issues were discussed, and we have extended an invitation to him to discuss it with us

Summarized Minutes of the Board Meeting, *Continued from page 4*

further at our next Board meeting. The Green Space Adoption program is being continued for 2018, and last year's partners are being contacted. We are also partnering with the Garden Club for their exchange and planting day in May. Lastly, it was noted by some that the neighborhood has been greatly beautified by the removal of all election yard signs, particularly those that featured my face.

Miscellaneous: Attendance by some Board members at relevant future neighborhood meetings were discussed including a meeting concerning the development at The Point and one concerning the

Green Star Movement. Plans for the next Neighbors Night Out were also discussed.

Future General Meeting: The next general meeting will be on May 14th at 7 PM at the normal location at Irving Park Baptist Church. It will include a talk regarding energy efficiency programs put on by Franklin Energy (and sponsored by Com Ed and Peoples Gas) along with other speakers yet to be identified. The following month will be the annual Ice Cream Social.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

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Summarized Minutes of the General Meeting

on April 9, 2018 — Lynn Ankney, President, filling in for Bart Goldberg, Secretary;
photos by Anna Zolkowski Sobor

Our April 9 meeting found us on a field trip to **Eris Brewery and Cider House** (www.erischicago.com), 4240 W. Irving Park. Business partners **Michelle Foik** and **Katy Pizza** treated 33 of us to a complete building and brewery tour, as well as some complimentary cider and beer tastings.

The main dining room and bar area (below the open mezzanine area in which we were meeting) was hoppin'! As such, we kept introductions of the first time meeting attendees to "hand raises" and general announcements to a minimum.

Given the size, our group parsed into two. One half toured the building from basement to the fourth floor with Katy while the other half enjoyed guided, complimentary tastings provided by Michelle. The groups then switched, allowing everyone a chance to tour and taste.

It's evident when touring all five levels of this historic building, just how much work and investment were required to bring the new business to life. Everyone universally praised the striking renovations on display in the foyer, main dining room/bar and the mezzanine level (where our group met).



Our behind the scenes visits of the third and fourth floors revealed some of the building's history. As the Myrtle Masonic Temple from 1911 to 1971, it still contains relics from the degree ceremonies representing the three stages of life. The term "giving someone the third degree" originated with that Masonic ritual. The 3rd floor is currently used for storage and Michelle and Katy's offices. Future plans include a catering kitchen and event space. The 4th floor will eventually become a laboratory because crafting beer and cider is truly a science experiment brought to life.

Continued on page 8



Katy explaining the fermentation which happens in the hot room.

Found in the building during renovation: The cross and crown are a symbol of the knights templar Temple of Solomon, also known as the Order of Solomon's Temple, the Knights Templar or simply as Templars. They were a Catholic military order recognized in 1139. A very secretive group whose largest contribution to modern day is the creation of "note for tender" or now called a check.



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OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Continued from page 6

The tour also included the brewing operations in the basement, which requires Eris to hold two licenses: beer and wine. The wine license is for the cider production. The Eris team sources their fruit (apples) from Michigan.

Outside of the tour, Michelle graciously treated all meeting attendees to two samples: a semi-dry cider, "Chasopher" and a beer, "The Original Snub," that included a small amount of cider. (The story of the Greek goddess Eris being snubbed



Milling/grinding machine is hot pink and connected to the basement tanks via a two story chute. T. J. Hine takes the opportunity to inspecting it.

History Tidbits: *Fifty Years of Masonry in Irving Park from the IPHS Archives*

– Laura Marie Sanchez



Found during the renovation a photo of Fred Rich Wenzel (left) in the new Eris Brewery and Cider House which once was home to the Myrtle Masonic Temple Irving Park Chapter No. 195.

Fred was born January 7, 1896, in Chicago. His parents moved the family to

the Independence Park neighborhood in 1916 (3742 N. Central Park) and lived there through the 1940s. Fred grew up and stayed in the neighborhood, too, living on the 3700 block of St. Louis and at 3737 W. Grace.

Fred was one of the first local guys to enlist in the Army in 1917 when the U.S. entered the World War 1 and served as a private for two years with MG Co 130 Infantry, 33rd Division.

In civilian life, Fred was a streetcar conductor with the Chicago Surface Lines, and his home base was the powerhouse at Addison and Elston. He married, but did not have children. Fred died Sept. 26, 1955, and is buried in Eden Memorial Cemetery in Schiller Park.

ABOUT: The Myrtle Lodge No. 725 A. F. & A. M. was instituted Jan 4, 1890 and was Constituted October 18, 1890 (Constituted means the Charter was granted from the Grand Lodge of Illinois).

The Myrtle Lodge met before Institution at the residence of Dr. William LeRoy Wilcox on the southeast corner of Byron and Keeler. Then it met for six years (from 1893-1899) at the Irving Park Country Club, north of the railroad tracks on Irving Park Rd. at Keeler.

The original charter of Myrtle Lodge was rescued from the 1899 fire that demolished the Club House and was framed to keep it preserved even with its burnt edges.

The cornerstone of the Myrtle Masonic Temple was laid by Albert B. Ashley, Grand Master on October 15, 1910, and the Temple was dedicated in 1911 by Worshipful Brother Joe E. Widner—he was also the first head-physician at Illinois Masonic Hospital.



OIPA GENERAL MEETING REPORT

and indirectly starting the Trojan War is recorded in the Principia, and referred to as the Original Snub). In Greed mythology, Eris is the goddess of strife and discord. Her name is the equivalent of the Latin Discordia, which means "discord."

Thanks to these ladies and their partners for investing in our community. Eris is sure to be a neighborhood staple for years to come! The restaurant opens at 11 a.m. daily; brunch plans are in the works.



Getting a detailed explanation of various tanks from co-owner Katy Pizza. Listening intently, L-R: Lynn, Mark, Chris, Liz, Donna and Mary Pat's hand.

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OIPA BUNNY FUN

The cold temperature and wind did not prevent determined egg hunters for the 21st annual OIPA spring egg hunt on Saturday, March 24! Thanks to all the volunteers, with special acknowledgment of volunteer coordinator **Rachel Allmen**, **Sheri McGuire** (our Bunny!), and **Backlot Coffee** for donating delicious, HOT coffee.

Photos by Sheri McGuire and Lynn Ankney:



Besties! Margaret McGuire (daughter of Sheri & Dan McGuire), Ellie O'Connor, Sheri McGuire (bunny), Quinn O'Connor, Samantha Street, and Rosie Rice.



The Bunny and the helpers to the Bunny: Carolyn Hackleman, Sheri McGuire, Rachel Allmen, Lynn Ankney



Special thanks

to Sheri (Bunny) and Dan McGuire for their years of volunteering as the "egg drop off" house. We will miss the McGuire family and wish them well in their new community.



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Peggy Brockhaus

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May Anniversaries

- 5 Kathleen & Steve Held
- 8 Annette & Tim Huizenga
- 11 Susan & Hank Strozewski
Tom & Therese Jezuit
- 13 Gerald & Jean Pitzen
- 14 Mike Fox & Kimberlee Gillespie
- 15 Jeff & Anja Moore
Lowell & Peggy Krischer
Mary Pat & Frank Serpone
- 19 Carlos & Yolanda Touza
Vanessa & Goeff Reu
- 24 Cathie Van Wert & Tim Menard
Kelly & Jeremiah Kaye
- 27 Andrea & Rick Guthmann
- 28 Kristie & Chris Hein
- 31 Alice & David Sheets
Barry & Karen Bebart

May Birthdays

- 1 Jose Frau
- 2 Martha Lubbat
- 4 Estela Sanchez
- 5 Hector Fundora
- 6 Kara Wagner-Sherer
Richard Knight
- 7 Elizabeth Basile
- 8 Julia Poskus
- 9 James Gabriel
Mike Manier
- 10 Juan Torres
Megan Stalder
- 12 Rick Guthmann
- 13 Sinisa Rasberger
- 13 Mona Garcia
- 14 Lisa Murata
Marge Luczak
Anja Moore
Katherine Heinrich
- 15 Mark McKelvey
Joe Simz
- 16 Jimmy O'Shea
- 17 Lauren Lopez
- 18 Keith Bates
Mary Kane
Theresa Lechowski
- 19 Janice Stechman
- 20 Amanda Meindl
Kate Roche
Christine Stypka
- 21 Phil Timberman
Theresa Mueller
Tim O'Sullivan
Carolyn Jensen
- 22 Amy Isadore
Hannah Lehman
Shaun Quinn
- 23 Adeline Krohmer
- 24 Andria Anderson
Anna Ware
- 26 Sam Lubbat
- 28 Janet Sayre
Mario DiPrizio
- 29 Kevin Krakora
Carolyn Newlin
- 30 Melissa Berecek
- 31 Wendy Lundgren

Is your birthday or anniversary missing from this list? Not sure if you provided your info in your renewal form? If so, please contact Meredith O'Sullivan at meredithosullivan@gmail.com or 773-551-4533, so she can add your name and dates to the list.

Call for Contributions to the OIPA News



While we receive most of our content from organizations, we welcome individual article submissions!

A few ideas:

- Give a shout-out to a kind neighbor.
- Did you recently visit a new business or restaurant? Then share your great experience.
- Write a fun story about our neighborhood or a fond memory.
- Share your knowledge on a topic.

Deadline for editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. to k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com. Please include "OIPA submission" in the subject line of the email. See page 40 for full details on submission requirements.

It's Time for Spring Tree Care.

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IRVING PARK GARDEN CLUB

It's May

Let The Planting Begin – Claudia Hine

The Irving Park Garden Club has three events planned for May, the month when Chicagoland gardeners can begin to think about buying annuals, filling containers, and getting their gardens planted.

To get off to a good start, club members will make a field trip to Sunrise Greenhouse in Grant Park, IL, which boasts eight acres of greenhouses and a three-acre nursery of trees and shrubs. We'll gather at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner, on Saturday, May 5, at 8 a.m., to carpool to the nursery. Then we'll stop for lunch on our way home.

Two weeks later, on Saturday, May 19, members who "adopted" the club's square planters along Irving Park Rd. will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Tripp Garden to pick up the flowers that will be used to fill those containers for the season. Thanks to the generosity of the Old Irving Park Assn., Jennifer and Nicole Paravola of Farmers Market Garden Center on Elston Ave. will provide us with a design scheme and plants to use in our containers.

Later that morning at 11 a.m., the club will meet for its annual plant exchange. Members will bring divided perennials to share with others and take home free plants in return. This year, the plant exchange will be held at the home of Linda and Laird Larsen, 3826 N. Kenneth Ave.

As a thank you to OIPA for the Farmers Market gift, the Irving Park Garden Club invites the OIPA members who "adopted" the large planters and green spaces along Irving Park Rd. to join us for the plant exchange. This is an opportunity to find some free plants to use in your adopted spaces.

It's not too late to join our club. The cost is \$20/household and there are five great programs coming up after May, including our popular garden walk and Midsummer Night Stroll. For more information, contact me at claudia.hine@yahoo.com and visit our Facebook page.



Susie Smith (left) and Jen O'Brien get spring gardening tips at the Irving Park Garden Club's March meeting.

Photo by T. J. Hine.



Passion for plants? Definitely. Knows Old Irving Park? Absolutely.

With a deep-rooted love of gardens and more than 20 years in business in the neighborhood, woman-owned Anne Roberts Gardens is ready to dig in this spring. Whether you're dreaming of **landscape design**, a **stone or paver patio**, a **rain garden**, or even **storm water management**, let Anne and her team get to work – so you can make the most of this summer in your garden.

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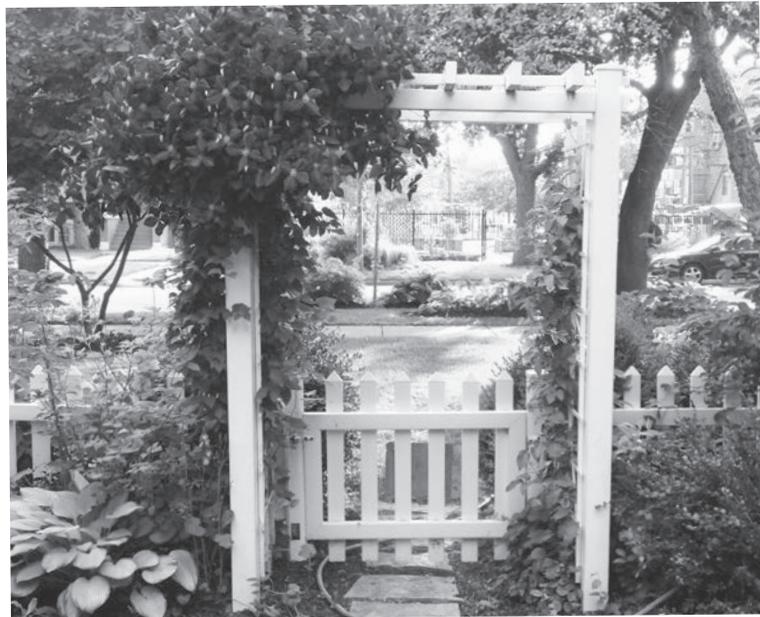
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A New Take on "Grandma's Cottage Garden"



With so many of our Old Irving Park homes nearing (or passing) the 100-year mark, many of us wish for an old-fashioned "cottage style" garden to complement our homes. Do you remember the graceful arching shape of the 'Bridal Veil' spirea? For a small space try Spirea 'Snowmound'. Similar arching shape but a much more manageable size of 4' x 4'. For a more compact mounding type of spirea, consider the birch leaf 'Spirea Tor'. The same pleasing leaf shape, the same multiple inflorescence flower, same great fall color, at a much more compact size of about 3' x 3'. They have recently developed a golden foliage variety 'Glow Girl' at a slightly larger size, 4' x 4'. Remember the wonderful fragrance of Mock Orange (*Philadelphus virginialis*) shrubs? You may recall they also became very leggy and unattractive with

age. Newer varieties like 'Snowflake' top out at 4' x 3'. The same beautiful flowers with the same great fragrance. Old fashioned Weigela is a beautiful shrub, but it can be over 5' tall and wide and take up too much room in the garden. There are many newer varieties that have the same hot pink horn-shaped flowers but much more compact in size, some as small as 2' x 2'. Many have shiny dark burgundy foliage ('Spilled Wine,' 'Fine Wine,' 'Midnight Wine') and they even have variegated varieties. Remember grandma's climbing rose? It was beautiful—for exactly one week. Never re-bloomed. These days there are re-booming varieties of both climbing roses and shrub roses. Knock Out Roses® are re-blooming and practically disease free. No more hauling

continued on page 20

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TIP FROM YOUR NEIGHBOR



A New Take on "Grandma's Cottage Garden" *Continued from page 18*

out the poisonous "Rose Dust" after every rain! Unfortunately, they don't have the strong fragrance of old-fashioned roses, but in my opinion, they more than makeup for it with the extended bloom time. You'll have flowers until frost!

Tried and true Hollyhocks are still excellent plants for a strong vertical statement. Peonies are still great staples in the garden. There are new varieties of Echinacea (Coneflowers) that bloom in almost every color and Monarda (Bee Balm) varieties that are mildew resistant. Instead of planting the plain old

orange day lilies, try reblooming varieties like 'Stella d'Oro' (gold), 'Happy Returns' (yellow), 'Rosy Returns' (pink), 'Pardon Me' (burgundy-red), most of these flowers are more compact at 18" – 30".

With some careful planning, you can still have the look of an "Old Fashioned Cottage Garden" but with less work and more enjoyment.

Maureen Taylor is a Master Gardener, Landscape Designer, past president of the Irving Park Garden Club and owner of Taylor Made Landscape Design, Inc. www.taylormld.com 773-255-2789.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | Spring Clean Up



OIPA Members In Action

OIPA was a co-sponsor of the Six Corners Association annual clean-up on Saturday, April 7. Neighbors worked hard to clean overgrown beds along Irving Park Rd. Irving Park Garden Club also organized a clean-up of the Tripp Garden at the same time.

Pictured above: OIP residents who volunteered as part of The Spring Clean Up held in very cold conditions on Sat., April 7. The volunteers spent 90 minutes targeting the three large garden beds on the north side of IP west of Kolmar.

Pictured left, L-R: Trudy Moore, IP Garden Club member; Claudia Hine, IP Garden Club president; Lynn Ankney, OIPA president.



We leveled it! Took out lots of trash, twigs, leaves and weeds.

26 large contractors bags of debris in 90 minutes. #teamwork

Photos provided by Lynn Ankey and Anna Sobor



Keeler Gardens Awarded Grant to Build a Pollinator Habitat!

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation has awarded up to \$10,000 for the creation of a native pollinator habitat providing environmental education opportunities for K-12 students, to learn about Illinois' native plants and native pollinators.

Several schools in the Old Irving Park area will work with Keeler Gardens, using the space for educational programs. The habitat will also be open to all community members for both education and reflection. Visitors to the habitat will experience Illinois native plants in a year-round refuge for pollinators, performing from early spring through

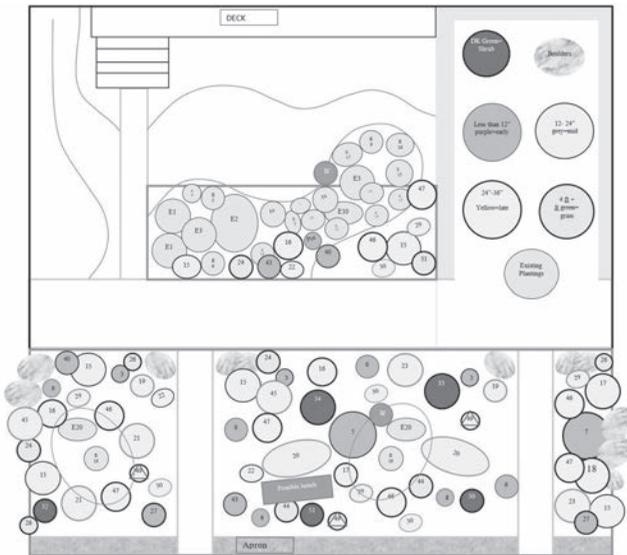
Images provided by Keeler Gardens



late fall. Learn more about the Pollinator Schools Program at illinoiscleanenergy.org.

The design and plant list are approved. The design, pictured below, left, includes both existing (designated with E) and proposed plantings (numbered), along with proposed structures. For more details about the design, please visit the Keeler Gardens blog, keelergardens.com/keeler-gardens-wins-pollinator-habitat-grant/.

Keeler Gardens hosted an event in late March to introduce the project and to start preparing the site for installation. Since the parkway is mostly grass, and the first step was to remove the grass, the plan is for something similar to lasagna gardening. The grass is killed when corrugated boxes are layered over it. This process does not have a negative impact on the microbial life in the soil, and the grass degrades back into the soil along with the cardboard. Although it is not a pretty picture, as you can see below, it will soon be transformed into an incredible haven for pollinators. Please check our Facebook page (@KeelerGardens) or our website for our upcoming events.



Keeler Gardens was established in 2016 to provide people with education about nature and its role in human health and well-being. Learn more about Keeler Gardens at keelergardens.com and visit @KeelerGardens on Facebook.

40th District State Representative



Jaime Andrade



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IL 40th District-Jaime Andrade



Partnership with The Chicago Ballet Center Begins in 2018-19 School Year

This no-cost CPS program will set students on the pathway to a career in dance, as well as provide students with the opportunity to pursue studies in arts administration and technical theatre for college credit. For more information contact CBC Director Paul Abrahamson at (773) 283-6510 or e-mail us at info@chicagoballetcenter.org.

Old Irving Neighbors at March Madness

At Schurz, March Madness meant post-graduation planning. Thank you to Old Irving residents who participated in a fun morning program of guided conversations to help students think about what they want to do with their lives and how to get there.

Thanks to Friends of Schurz Volunteers!

Thank you to the many neighbors who helped in the massive effort to sort and sell books during the April book sale. Schurz staff were grateful for the opportunity to clear out storage spaces throughout the school, and we were able to raise some money to make some update purchases for the library.



Congratulations to These Bulldogs on Their impressive Achievements:

Digital Media students Karina Beltran, Rosa Gomez, Yaniry Popoca and Sydni Dorsey for their 1st place finish in the Video Production category of the 52nd Annual Business Professionals of America Chicago Citywide Competition. They will advance to the BPA National Leadership Conference in May.

Pre-Engineering students Jose Chavez, Jennifer Trigo, Carmelo Arteaga, and Oswaldo Nunez won 2nd place in both ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) competitions at the Navy's Regional SeaPerch Competition for Underwater Robotics. The Cyberdogz Robotics Team competed in the First Robotics Midwest Regionals competition at UIC Pavilion in April.

Schurz's Academic Decathlon Team placed 4th in the state championship in March, after placing 3rd in the citywide competition a month earlier. Congratulations to team members Nick Lopez, Jonathan Carcamo, Eriks Nikurs, Natanael Estrada, Jonathan Rodriguez, Alex Mejia, Erik Vasquez, George Goce, and Anthony Berdeja.

Three Alliance Française students have been named as Alliance Française Award Towards Excellence Scholarship winners. Julissa and Mairany will attend the Lac du Bois camp at Concordia Language Villages in Minnesota and Guadalupe will travel to France.

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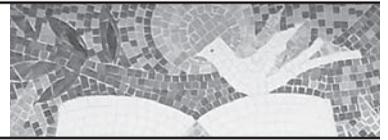
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Viator Vibrations

— Stacey Stevens / Kris Nielsen

Stay tuned for upcoming events at stviatorchicago.org or on our Facebook page.

Peace Builders

St. Viator students, parents and community members began the day on March 14 with a prayer service for peace as part of a national walkout to commemorate the deadly school shooting that took place one month earlier in Parkland, Florida.

Students prayed for peace in the world, in the city and in their school. Then each class planted a daffodil in a pot, with each student contributing a cup of soil to nourish the plant. Seventeen daffodils were planted in honor of the 17 victims of the attack at Stoneman Douglas High School.

PeaceBuilders, a research-validated youth violence prevention program, is an integral part of the St. Viator student culture. As part of a year-long schedule of events and curriculum content, the annual springtime PeaceBuilders Talent Show featured 23 students demonstrating their command of martial arts, acrobatics, song, dance and magic!



Real-life sisters Hanna and Brynn Murphy perform "Sisters," best known from the 1954 movie *White Christmas*, at the annual PeaceBuilders Talent Show.

Spelling Bee Winners

The winners of the 2018 St. Viator Spelling Bee were Nicholas Wilkerson, Joseph Ortega and Steven Ortega. They advanced to the regional competition where Nicholas took 1st place and Joseph came in 3rd, achievements that earned them invitations to the state competition.

Prospective Family Open House

May 16, 9–10:30 a.m. Tour our school while class is in session! Please RSVP to Marge at mtiritilli@stviatorchicago.org. or 773-545-2173.

Upcoming Events

Old Irving Park Chicago Beer & BBQ Challenge —

On Aug. 4, local pitmasters will team up with local craft brewers in this annual competition where attendees vote for the winners. Visit www.beerbbqchallenge.com for information and tickets.



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The Buzz at Belding — Lisa Owens, 4th Grade Reading/Social Studies Teacher



IB at Belding

On Tuesday, March 27th, **Mayor Rahm Emanuel** held a press conference at Belding School to announce that Belding will launch the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) beginning in fall 2019 for 6-8th-grade students. The MYP - a rigorous academic curriculum with an emphasis on the importance of global citizenship - empowers students to question issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally, and globally. Belding is making tremendous progress, and this new investment will ensure our school's continued success by expanding access to proven academic programming. The strong academic foundation that students will receive at Belding will prepare them for success in high school, college, career, and life. Students will be able to continue their MYP studies and pursue the IB Diploma Program at Schurz High School, Belding's partner IB, high school.

Spring Musical

You are invited the Belding Production of *Bye-Bye Birdie* on May 3rd and 4th at 6 p.m. Under the direction of Lee Peters and Michele Suffredin, students in grades 5-8th have been rehearsing since January to create a fantastic musical experience for people of all ages. Set in the 1950's, *Bye-Bye Birdie* is the story of rock star Conrad Birdie being selected for the draft and all the ensuing effects. Tickets are \$5 and \$3 for children 4 and under. Tickets and concessions will be sold beginning at 5:30 p.m.

International Festival

Belding Elementary invites the Old Irving Park community to the 5th Annual International Festival on June 15th from 3-6:30 p.m. Join us as we celebrate the beauty of diversity through music, dance, and cultural food! This year's party will have professional performances of mariachi, Irish Dance, and Debbka. Activities include bouncy house inflatables, student performances of music and dance, as well as cultural demonstrations and activities. Food and henna art are also available for purchase. Admission is \$10 for ages 5 and up and \$5 for ages 3 and 4.

Kindergarten Registration

Learn more about Belding Elementary School during one of our monthly tours. Please join us at 8 a.m. on one of the following dates: May 15, May 29, June 5, June 12. Registration packets will be available, and we encourage you to be prepared to register. You will need a birth certificate (all incoming kindergarten students must be five yrs. by September 1). You must have two forms of proof of residency. You may also call the school to make an appointment to register.

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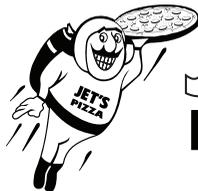
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OIP Has It Covered!

Have you heard? An OIP kitchen was chosen as the cover shots (front AND back) for the new 95-page national brochure, just out from custom cabinet maker Greenfield Cabinetry! And, open up the brochure to find a bathroom, located in a home in the Terraces of Old Irving Park.

Besides both remodeling projects being located in Old Irving Park—what else do they have in common? They were both designed by Fred M. Alsen of fma Interior Design who was recently awarded the National Grand Prize winner of the first-ever Blanco Design Contest.

“Old Irving Park has a great mix of home styles,” notes seasoned designer Fred M. Alsen. “I love working on older homes to make spaces feel as if they have always been part of the home—but function for the individual family’s aesthetic and busy lifestyle of today.”

The kitchen featured belongs to the home of Chris and Christine Gorz. Their Old Irving Park house was built in 1893! When asked how the remodel has changed the way they live in their house, Christine answered, “We thoroughly enjoy being in our kitchen now—cooking, entertaining and even cleaning are more enjoyable! We love everything about it.”

“Fred is just so lovely to work with,” beams Lisa Albrecht. Lisa and her husband Steve Slaber remodeled three bathrooms with Alsen, all at the same time, in their Terraces of Old Irving Park home. Their master bathroom is featured in a two-page spread and titled “Relaxation Station.” “That is exactly what it was supposed to be when we envisioned it,” shares Albrecht.

Did working on all three bathrooms at once present an extra challenge? “Yes and no,” says Alsen. “A good



designer will make each space have its own story but still flow with the rest of the home’s style.”

A pocket door replaced the old door for the master bath. “The door to the bathroom opened right against the shower. The door couldn’t be moved due to being down the hallway between closets. The only real solution was to put in a pocket door. We moved the plumbing for the shower up 6” which allowed for a gorgeous pocket door of glass and wood – solving not only traffic flow issue, but also allowing light from the large bathroom window to flow into the dark closet hallway outside of the bathroom.”

Greenfield Cabinetry, used in both projects, a custom cabinet manufacturer based in Indianapolis. Ann Rottinghaus, VP of Sales and Marketing for the company, oversaw the book’s production. “The title of the book is ‘Welcome Home.’ The shot we used of the Gorzes home just brought you into the kitchen—into the home. The image just felt like you were walking right into the space,” she says.

Both Old Irving Park families have brochure set out as a coffee table book. “I just can’t believe that’s actually our kitchen on the front cover...and on the back cover...and inside!” exclaims Christine Gorz. “The shots really capture the warmth and openness of our kitchen. Lisa Albrecht shares “I have shown the book to neighbors and anyone who has come to the house. I say to them...want to see my new bathroom, clean?”

More images from both projects can be found by visiting: www.houzz.com/pro/fmadesignchicago

Stephanie Cutter



Irving Park Real Estate

For a closer look at Irving Park Real Estate scan below using your iPhone camera app or QR code scanner or visit:

www.stephaniecutter.com/irvingpark



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS | GIPNA Craft Fair

THE GREATER INDEPENDENCE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

is hosting the 11th annual Fine Craft Fair just in time for Mother's Day in the Independence Park Gymnasium, 3945 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago 60618, on Saturday, May 5th, 2018, from Noon to 4 p.m. The Fine Craft Fair will feature original handmade craft items from over 30 artisans. The work includes jewelry, textiles, glass, ceramics, pet products, apparel, and home accessories. All work is original and handmade by local artisans. www.gipna.org

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Irving Park Fine Arts Committee Presents Judy & Liza

The Irving Park Fine Arts Committee is pleased to present "Judy & Liza – Once in a Lifetime: The London Palladium Concert" on May 12th at 7 pm at the Irish American Heritage Center. The concert is a tribute to Judy Garland and Liza Minnelli's one-and-only performance together, which took place in 1964 at the London Palladium. The concert stars Nancy Hays as Judy Garland and Alexa Castelveccchi as Liza Minnelli. A trio led by Robert Ollis will accompany the singers.

"The performance highlights the love shared between this famous mother-daughter duo," said Nancy Hays, the show's creator. "Since the show takes place Mother's Day weekend, it's a perfect bonding opportunity for moms and daughters of all ages," she said.

Tickets for the concert are \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door for general admission, which includes light appetizers and a cash bar. VIP tickets are \$50 and include premium reserved seating, appetizers and one drink. Tickets can be purchased at www.carlsoncommunityservices.org.

The Irish American Heritage Center is located at 4626 N. Knox, Chicago. Parking is free and plentiful and the building is handicapped accessible.

The concert is a benefit for Carlson Community Services, a 501(c)(3) non-profit which operates three neighborhood programs – an after-school program, community garden and classical music concert series. For more information contact Liz Mills at 773.398.6766.

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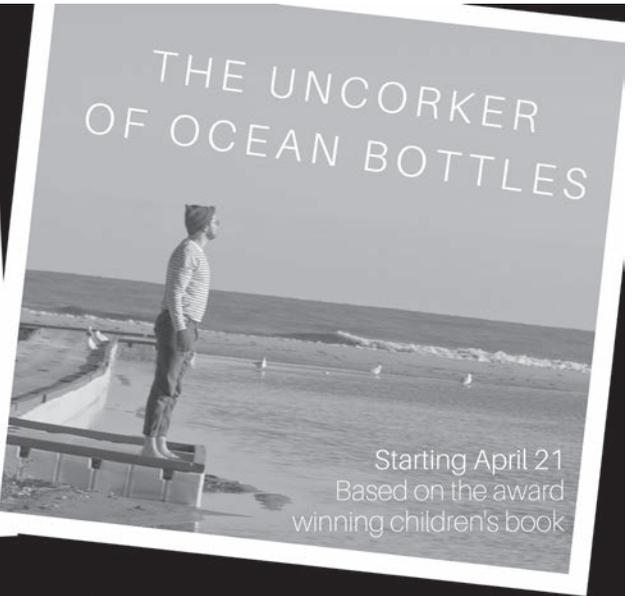
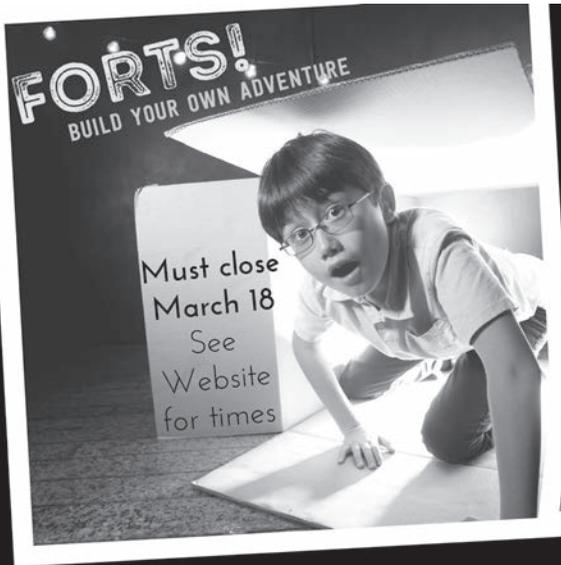
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SPOTTED: Megan Tormey (left) and neighborhood volunteer Paige Brite prepare Easter baskets for clients' children during the Irving Park Community Food Pantry's program in March. *Photo by Craig Shutt*



SPOTTED: Mike Barrett of Liberty Tax Service (center) delivers a check to Irving Park Food Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis and Board Member Sara Yoest. The company ran promotions to support the Pantry in February and March. *Photo by Craig Shutt*





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Walk with the Pantry on May 19th!

Join your friends for a short walk through the neighborhood on Saturday, May 19th as the Irving Park Community Food Pantry holds its first annual Neighborhood Walk! The walk will kick off at 9 a.m. (we'll start gathering at 8:15), and it will cover 1.7 miles around the Pantry's base at 3801 N. Keeler Ave.



Our goal is to raise awareness about food insecurity in our neighborhood, which includes the 60641 and western half of 60618 ZIP codes. We hope walkers will donate and ask their friends for pledges to raise money to help us buy food for clients. We also are asking walkers to bring any donations they want, especially men's white crew socks, toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and razors especially) or shelf-stable food such as peanut butter, mac & cheese, tuna, energy bars, cake mixes, etc.

We encourage school and church groups to gather items and walk together. Students can earn 2 hours of service time for participating. For information, contact Pantry Executive Director John Psiharis at info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org.

The Pantry is pleased to welcome **Gladys Arana-Arriola** as our new Client Resources Coordinator. Gladys has experience working with the homeless and advocating for affordable housing in the Humboldt Park and Uptown communities. She lives in Old Irving Park. She has taken over for Elvia Esparza, who had taken a full-time job at Rush University Medical Center.

The Pantry distributed approximately 200 Easter baskets to clients' children up to 12 years old during March. Special thanks to **Megan Tormey** for coordinating the program and working with local churches, including Irving Park United Methodist Church, Irving Park Lutheran Church and Mount Olive Church. Thanks also to the neighborhood volunteers who handled the distribution, including **Paige Brite, Renee Linnemeyer, Audra Nelson, Faith Tang and Sara Yoest.**

.....
Thank you to co-owner Mike Barrett of Liberty Tax Service (4900 West Irving Park Rd), who ran programs for the Pantry during February and March tied to the company's services. The total donation was more than \$1,600!

.....
Thank you to everyone in Old Irving Park for your support and donations, which allow us to continue to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors!"



Executive Director John Psiharis welcomes Gladys Arana-Arriola as the Pantry's new Client Resources Coordinator. *Photo by Craig Shutt*

.....
*Article submitted by Craig Shutt. John Psiharis, Executive Director, Irving Park Community Food Pantry
3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago IL 60641 | e-mail: info@irvingparkfoodpantry.org, Web: www.irvingparkfoodpantry.org.*



You love Old Irving Park. We do too.

Gidley Management Group (GMG) is a woman-owned and operated association and non-profit management firm located right here in Old Irving Park. Although our company, located downtown since 1992, is new to the neighborhood, the owners of GMG are proud lifetime residents of the community. When presented with the opportunity in the summer of 2017, Susan, Sheila, and Debbie decided to move GMG from downtown to the neighborhood they grew up in.

Our team specializes in association management, event planning, graphic design, and social media marketing, web content development, and many client focused consulting services. From administrative to advertising, GMG can help your small business or association grow, or even make your next event bigger and better than ever!



The GMG Family (top to bottom, left to right) Susan, Debbie, Nina, Sheila, Rachel, Jess

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Association and Nonprofit Management





Shred-a-Thon Scheduled for May 12

Need to shred old, sensitive documents?

45th Ward Alderman Arena is partnering with Midway Moving to host a Shred-a-Thon.

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Editorial
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THE MONTH)
BY 5 p.m.**

May

-
- 5 Irving Park Garden Club | Field Trip to Sunrise Greenhouse** | 8 a.m. | Meet at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3857 N. Kostner | Free for members; \$20 to join
-
- 5 11th annual Fine Craft Fair** hosted by **THE GREATER INDEPENDENCE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**. This Mother's Day event is held in the Independence Park Gymnasium, 3945 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago 60618, on Saturday, May 5th, 2018, from Noon to 4 p.m. The Fine Craft Fair will feature original handmade craft items from over 30 artisans. www.gipna.org
-
- 12 Benefit for Carlson Community Services** | 7 p.m. | "Judy & Liza – Once in a Lifetime" | Irish American Heritage Center
tickets at carlsoncommunityservices.org/events
-
- 19 Irving Park Garden Club | Annual Plant Exchange** | 11 a.m. | 3826 N. Kenneth | Free for members & OIPA members who adopted green spaces/containers on Irving Park Rd.
-

May OIPA Member Meeting

7 p.m. | Monday, May 14
Irving Park Baptist Church

A talk regarding energy efficiency programs put on by Franklin Energy (and sponsored by Com Ed and Peoples Gas) is planned, along with other speakers yet to be identified.

June will be the annual Ice Cream Social.
Watch for Details.



Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash



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- Gift Membership

Joining or renewing your membership is easy with our online membership form at www.oldirvingpark.com/join-us If you don't have access to our online membership form, please complete the form below.

We like to celebrate our members in our newsletter. Birthday and anniversary information is optional. If you wish to be included on the birthday and anniversary page in the newsletter, **you must provide the information annually** to be included (adults members and spouses/partners only).

NAME (FIRST/LAST) BIRTHDAY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

SPOUSE/PARTNER NAME (FIRST/LAST) BIRTHDAY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ANNIVERSARY MONTH & DATE (OPTIONAL)

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL E-MAIL 2

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS expire August 31 and are due by September 1. Membership dues received after May 1 will be applied to the following year membership.

MEMBERSHIP DUES (per household)

Membership Benefits: Monthly meetings, hand delivered paper newsletter, member/spouse birthday and anniversary published in newsletter, ice-cream social, holiday dinner

- \$25/year Standard - \$15/year Standard Seniors (age 65+)
- \$75 Good Neighbor: Standard membership plus — One child and/or pet's name and birthday in newsletter and an OIPA Tote Bag
- \$150 Neighborhood All-star: Standard membership plus — One child and/or pet's name and birthday in newsletter, an OIPA Tote Bag, and admission for two to an exclusive OIPA party
- Add \$17/year for OIPA NEWSLETTER deliveries out of boundaries. (Boundaries: South of Montrose, North of Addison, West of Pulaski & East of Milwaukee District North railroad tracks adjacent to Kilbourn/Kolmar)

GIFT MEMBERSHIP: Simply complete the form above or the online form with your neighbor's name(s) and address. You may not know their birthday/anniversary info. That's okay - we'll follow up with them. **If purchasing online:** Please indicate this is a gift subscription in the final box titled, "Special Instructions."

SEND FORM & PAYMENT TO: Old Irving Park Association, c/o Meredith O'Sullivan, OIPA Director / Membership, 4061 W. Warwick Ave., Chicago, IL 60641

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE: Old Irving Park Association **OR** join/renew online: oldirvingpark.com/join-us

From the Editor: SUBMISSION TO THE NEWSLETTER POLICY

Note: Ten newsletters are produced annually (Newsletters are not published in the months of January and July). A heartfelt thanks to everyone who continue to submit articles and photos for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you throughout the year.

**Submission
deadline:
2nd Tuesday
of the month.**

All members are welcome to submit letters, photos, articles (440 words maximum without photos, 300 with photos) for publication. Please send content as a Word document or in an email. Links to websites or Facebook are NOT acceptable. Send your contributions to: Kathleen Kearns at k.kearns@kearnsdesign.com. Please include **"OIPA submission"** in the subject line of the email. Also include the category of the item you are submitting — advertisement, article or event for community calendar, etc.

Photos should be accompanied with a caption(s) and photo credit. If your files are too large to email, please use <https://wetransfer.com>. You can send several files at a time using [wetransfer](https://wetransfer.com).

Deadline for advertising AND editorial submissions is the second Tuesday of the month by 5 p.m. Materials SUBMITTED AFTER this date will be held over to the next month's issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Information printed in the newsletter may be reproduced with Old Irving Park Association cited as the source. Opinions in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Old Irving Park Association.

**AD SPACE Purchase and upload your ad at:
www.oldirvingpark.com/buy-a-newsletter-ad**

AD SIZES: Full Page: 6.25" X 7.5"
Half Page: 6.25" X 3.75"
Quarter Page: 3" X 3.75"

ACCEPTABLE AD FILES: High Resolution (minimum 300 dpi) grayscale; jpg, PDF, or eps.
Microsoft Word files are NOT acceptable.

Be a Connector — Spread the News!

Please consider passing this newsletter on to a neighbor as a gentle reminder to renew his/her household membership or, better yet, to someone on your block who is either a new resident or not familiar with OIPA.



We specialize in:

- Water Leak Repairs
- Faucets
- Hot Water Heaters
- Tankless Water Heaters
- Garbage Disposals
- Clogged Drains
- Ejector/Sump Pumps
- Battery Backup Systems
- Low Water Pressure Problems
- Water Booster Pumps
- Gas Line Installation & Leak Repairs
- Rehab & Custom Shower Systems
- Sewer Power Rodding
- Sewer camera

vanguardplumbing@gmail.com
www.vanguardplumbingandsewer.com



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OLD IRVING PARK NEWS

Old Irving Park Association

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